



Words, Attitudes, and Actions Impact a Person's Life More Than the Disability















75%
unemployment rate
Higher for people
with significant
developmental disabilities



Benjamin was the same child the day after the diagnosis.
Who changed?

Lessons from Adults:

The Message of Therapies
The Message of Segregation
The Message of Goals
Wanting to be loved and
accepted just the way you are.





I felt as a child they kept trying to fix me, but nobody was helping me to learn how to live with the way I was.

Dr. Margaret Stineman



BEST INTENTIONS UNINTENDED CONSEQUENCES

We can believe what we choose.

We are answerable for what we choose to believe.

John Henry Newman, Roman Catholic Priest - 1800s

DISABILITY IS NOT THE "PROBLEM"

The Real Problems are ATTITUDES and PERCEPTIONS About Disability.

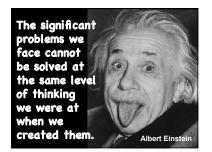












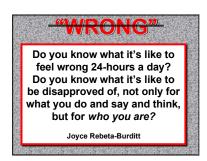




Never deny
the diagnosis,
but always
deny the
negative prognosis.









The difference between the right word and the almost right word is the difference between lightning and the lightning bug.

Mark Twain





DISABLED

Federal Definition

Permanently and totally disabled:
The person cannot engage in any substantial gainful activity because of a physical or mental condition.... (that) can be expected to last continuously for at least a year or lead to death.



If thought corrupts language, language can also corrupt thought.

George Orwell



Every trait
or behavior
is NOT
a consequence
of the disability!

COMPARE TO STHERS Compare Only to Self







